MINUTES

—OF THE—

Eleventh Annual Session

—OF THE—

TROY ASSOCIATION,

—HELD WITH—

ORION CHURCH, AT ORION, ALA., COMMENCING ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 1894.

OFFICERS:

W. H. BARNETT,	Modeator.
S. J. TOWNSEND,	Clerk.
M. A. WOOD,	Treasurer.

TROY, ALA.:
JOHN POST, PRINTER,
1894.

MINUTES.

The Eleventh Annual Session of TROY ASSOCIATION was held with the Orion church at Orion, commencing on Friday, August 3rd, 1894. The services began by reading scripture, singing and prayer, led by Bro. Jesse H. Dickson, of the Montgomery Association.

The Introductory Sermon was postponed until 8 o'clock p. m., and the body was called to order by the Moderator, Bro. W. H. Barnett.

A committee was appointed on Credentials consisting of S. J. Townsend, N. A. Adams and W. A. Morrison.

On motion S. J. Townsend was made Clerk, *pro tem.* The body then adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The body was called to order by singing, and reading the 84th Psalm, and prayer by Elder J. L. Youngblood. The committee on Credentials reported and the report was adopted as follows :

Your committee beg leave to report that we find from letters presented from the different churches composing this Association, that the following named brethren have been delegated to represent them in this body, to-wit :

Troy Church—Elders R. H. Harris, A. N. Worthy, J. L. Youngblood, L. H. Bowles, and Brethren W. L. Hendrick, J. D. Murphree, Joe Jernigan, J. P. Hubbard, E. H. Locke, B. W. Starke, Fox Henderson, J. S. Carroll, G. W. Andrews, J. I. Lamar, M. N. Carlisle, W. F. Beard, T. E. Hill, J. O. Pierson, S. J. Townsend, A. B. Foster, W. S. Coleman, R. L. Harmon.

Shiloh Church—R. B. Parks, M. A. Wood, Sam Fleming, W. G. Carlisle, J. R. Turner, T. J. McDowell.

Olustee Church—W. H. Barnett, W. A. Morrison, J. A. Dennis.

Orion Church—Eld. E. A. Pinckard, N. A. Adams, M. W. Pennington.

Respectfully submitted.

S. J. TOWNSEND,
W. A. MORRISON,
N. A. ADAMS.

On motion the body proceeded to elect the officers by acclamation, whereon Bro. W. H. Barnett was elected Moderator, M. A. Wood, Treasurer, S. J. Townsend, Clerk.

The letters were then read by the Clerk, and visiting brethren were invited to take seats with the body and aid in deliberations. The pastor of Orion church, Elder A. E. Pinckard, and delegates extended a hearty welcome.

Petitionary letters being called for, Salem church, by her delegates, Brethren L. M. Bradley, H. A. McLane, presented a letter asking admission into this body, which was received and, by motion of Eld. J. L. Youngblood, the right hand of fellowship was extended by the entire body.

The following special committees were appointed, to-wit:

On Religious Services—The pastor and delegates of Orion church.

On Finance—H. A. McLane, J. R. Turner, M. W. Pennington.

On Documents, etc.—A. N. Worthy, M. A. Wood, B. W. Starke.

On Nominations—Elders J. L. Youngblood, L. M. Bradley, J. O. Pierson.

Correspondence from sister Associations was called for, and the following responded:

Bro. J. H. Dickson from the Montgomery Association.

C. P. McPherson and C. N. Mallet from Salem Association.

F. P. and T. F. Bledsoe from Centennial Association.

On motion, reading of the rules of order was dispensed with.

The report on Foreign Missions was read as follows:

To the Troy Baptist Association:

Your Committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to make the following report:

We find that the amount contributed to Foreign Missions by the Baptists of the State to April 30th, 1894, the close of the Southern Baptist Convention year, to be $7, 497,71. This amount shows that the Baptists of the State gave as much during the last Southern Baptist Convention year as it has ever given to Foreign Missions with two exceptions, and one of these exceptions was the Centennial year ending April 30th, 1893, during which year there was contributed to this cause $11.504, and during the year 1891, there was contributed $7,753, which report shows only a small difference between the amount contributed last year and the highest amount contributed during any year heretofore with the exception of the Centennial year. We are not surprised that we fell short of the amount contributed during the Centennial year, but we feel justly proud that during the depression which has existed here for nearly two years, the State has done so well in its contributions toward the Mission work in Foreign countries.

This committee desires to say further, that they of course believe that the work was commanded of God, and therefore recommend to the churches of this Association the importance of the work. They ask that a very liberal contribution be given so that the Association may share in the good work which is being done by Baptists in this State and South in sending the Bible to the heathen. They recommend that monthly contributions be made by each member of the church for this work, just as they contribute regularly to other benevolent objects. It is considered as best by the committee that these contributions be made periodically because the burden will seem lighter when thus made. It has been the experience of other churches that its members are more willing to contribute to such causes in that way, and they have all found by that means the contributions will be more, and at the same time will not be oppressive. Such plan of periodically contributing to all objects to which members of the church desire to contribute has been put into

operation by the Baptist church at Troy, and so far it has worked well, and when it is under good headway it is thought that it will be an excellent plan.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. N. Worthy, Ch'n.

On motion the action of the body on Foreign Missions was deferred until Saturday 2 o'clock, when the reports of Home and State Missions will all be discussed under the same head.

The report on Sunday Schools was received and read by Bro. Starke, as follows :

To the Troy Baptist Association :

We, your committee, beg leave to report, that upon an investigation we find that there are, out of the four churches which belong to the Troy Baptist Association, only three Sunday Schools. We desire to say that we most heartily endorse the work of the Sunday Schools in connection with the work of the churches, and as a part thereof; and we earnestly recommend, if practicable, that the remaining church establish a Sunday School for the benefit of its members and children of the community.

We realize that in the Sunday Schools the child is taught, when he begins first to acquire any knowledge whatsoever, who is his God and who is his Savior, and the necessity of reverence and respect for them, and even also the great, but simple, plan of salvation. We are taught that when a child can discriminate right from wrong and has the ability to resist doing the wrong, then he becomes a responsible being; and we believe that at the time he becomes a responsible being he is old enough and should have knowledge enough to understand the only possible way to be relieved from the consequences of wrong acts. It therefore behooves us to see that they are taught early so that at the time when they are responsible for what they do, they have a knowledge of the plan of salvation. We believe that the Sunday School is a meet and proper place, and it is one which is suited principally for the purpose of instructing those who have to be held responsible for what they do.

But shall we stop here, and say that it only becomes necessary for a sufficient number of the older ones to go to Sunday School to teach the young ones, and that as soon as they acquire a knowledge of the plan of salvation then they are at liberty to stop? Certainly not. It is a place where those who attend are expected to interchange ideas and teach each other lessons from the Bible. It is one of the sweetest privileges which we have to study the Bible for ourselves and discuss it among ourselves so that we may have the benefit also of the studies of others. The study of the Bible is greatly and sadly neglected, and that is so even among the members of the church. Let all the members of the church go to Sunday School and prepare the lessons before they go, and be ready to exchange ideas with our friends and neighbors, and we will soon acquire a marvelous love for the study of that Book of books. It is needless to mention the importance of its study; for we all know that in it we find relief for every affliction which the human soul has.

All of which is respectfully submiited.

Arthur B. Foster, Ch'n.

By motion further action was postponed until Sunday morning at 9 o'clock.

The report on Temperance was read and adopted, as follows :

Report on Temperance.—Your committee on Temperance is grati-

fied to report that, in their opinion, there has been a remarkable improvement in the minds of the people upon this subject within the last twelve months in Pike county. The number of grog shops have decreased nearly half, and we learn that they are not frequented by so many persons as formerly. At the County Seat there are now only two bar rooms, and they are supported mainly by the patronage of negroes, there being but little drinking by the white people. The cause of this falling off in the use of intoxicants as a beverage is the result partly of the Keeley Cure, partly the scarcity of money with which to buy, liquors being sold exclusively for cash; but mainly because of the growing sentiment against the practice. There are now only four grog shops in the county, two at Troy and two in the country. From what we can learn the business is not paying the few who are now engaged in the unholy traffic. The farming interest has suffered greatly by reason of the too free use of intoxicants by the laboring class, therefore the owners of the farms are taking more interest than usual in keeping retail grog shops out of the country.

Your committee would recommend a more earnest effort on the part of our denomination to discourage the use of intoxicants as a beverage. We also give expression to the opinion that the signing of whisky petitions, by which consent is obtained to sell spiritious liquors, is a grevous offense against the church, and a violation of the spirit of christianity. Therefore your committee recommend that the churches comprising Troy Association make the signing of whiskey petitions a violation of the rules of the respective churches, and that the members be held to strict account for such violation.

Your committee also recommend that the pastors of the respective churches preach at least two sermons during the year upon the subject of intemperance, basing their discourses upon appropriate scripture texts condemning the excessive use of strong drink.

Your committee also reccommend that each church composing this Association take up a collection of money once a year for the purchase of temperance literature in leaflets, to be scattered abroad in the neighborhood of the respective churches. All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOEL D. MURPHREE, Ch'n.

An address by Bro. J. D. Murphree was read, advocating the cause of Temperance and fully sustaining said report.

On motion Bro. Murphree was requested to have said address published.

On motion this body will adjourn at will and meet at 8:30 o'clock. Adjourned to meet at 8:30 o'clock Saturday morning.

The Committee on Preaching announced that Eld. L. M. Bradley preach at night, 8 o'clock; Eld. J. L. Youngblood on Saturday evening, 8 o'clock; and Eld. R. H. Harris on Sunday at 11 o'clock. 8 o'clock p. m. Eld. L. M. Bradley preached from the text, 2 Cor. 4: 5. Theme: For Jesus sake. He handled the subject as with unction from heaven.

SATURDAY 9 O'CLOCK A. M.

The Association was called to order after reading the 116th Psalm by the Moderator, and prayer.

On motion the regular order of business was suspended and a committee was appointed consisting of R. H. Harris,

A. N. Worthy, J. L. Youngblood and B. W. Starke to revise the order of business.

On motion 30 minutes be devoted to religious exercises, and by request of Moderator, Bro. J. H. Dickson was requested to conduct the same.

The Committee on Order of Business reported as follows, and the report was adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO REVISE ORDER OF BUSINESS.—

1. Association called to order by former Moderator.
2. Appoint Committee on Credentials.
3. Introductory Sermon.
4. Read Church Letters.
5. Elect Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.
6. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
7. Receive applications from churches for membership.
8. Appoint committees, to report during session—
   (1) On Religious Exercises.
   (2) On Finance.
   (3) On Documents and Requests.
   (4) On Nominations.
9. Call for Correspondence.
10. Read Rules of Order.
11. Reports of Standing Committees, in their order.
12. Reports of Special Committees.
13. Return Correspondence.
14. Appoint Committees, to report next meeting—
   (1) On State and Home Missions.
   (2) On Foreign Missions.
   (3) On Sunday Schools.
   (4) On Temperance.
   (5) On Education.
   (6) On Colportage.
   (7) On Baptist Orphanage.
   (8) On Deceased Ministers.
   (9) On Indigent Ministers.
   (10) Treasurer's Report.
15. Miscellaneous Business.
16. Verify List of Messengers.
17. Arrange for Printing Minutes.
18. Correct Minutes and Adjourn.

ROBERT H. HARRIS,
A. N. WORTHY,
J. L. YOUNGBLOOD,
B. W. STARKE.

The report on Education was received, read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.—We think there is a healthy growth of interest in the cause of education throughout our section. The subject of education is engaging more and more of the attention of the people, in general—and this is well. But we fear that our people are not sufficiently aroused to the importance of denominational schools, distinctively speaking. There is danger of too much and too implicit reliance upon the public school system, for the training and finishing of our young people, in the educational sense, as commonly accepted. We believe in public schools, under proper conditions; but we would insist upon the importance of sending our boys and girls to our denominational colleges to be graduated, when the financial ability of the

parents will justify such a course; and it is our opinion that such a course is possible, in many cases, wherein parents imagine that it is impossible. All that is needed, on the part of the parents, consists in a proper appreciation of the importance of college training and a spirit that will prompt them to make real sacrifices for the attainment of that end. Howard College, for our boys, and Judson, for our girls, should be our aim. The tide is turning in the affairs of those institutions of training; the burden of debt is being lightened, and we firmly believe will, ere long, be entirely lifted from both. Whittle is working wonders, as financial agent, for Howard, and liberal hearted brethren are wreathing with smiles the lately anxious faces of the Judson Trustees. With the able and zealous McGaha at the head of Howard's faculty, and the accomplished and polished Averett as President of the Judson, the future of both institutions is illumined with hope of great things. Let us stand by both schools and aid them with our patronage and our gifts.

ROBERT H. HARRIS.
H. A. MCLANE.
J. O. PIERSON.

The report on Colportage and Bible Work was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BIBLE AND COLPORTAGE.—Your committee beg to report that we are, as ever, impressed with the great importance of this work. The selling and distributing of Bibles and religious literature is like the casting of bread on the waters that will be gathered many days hence. We would urge our churches to send their contributions for this work so it may be practical to employ a man to engage in it, and also to preach in destitute neighborhoods in our and adjoining Associations. Respectfully submitted.

J. L. YOUNGBLOOD, Ch'n.

Whereon a pledge was made by the following churches to support said cause: Shiloh church pledged $10.00; Olustee church pledged $5.00; Orion church pledged $5.00.

On motion the hour of 2 o'clock p. m. is set to act on the subject of Missions.

Adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

The body was called to order and the Moderator read the 27th Psalm, and prayer by Elder L. M. Bradley.

On motion the report on Foreign Missions was taken up and, after discussion, was adopted.

In the absence of a committee not having been previously appointed, on motion a committee consisting of Eld. L. M. Bradly, R. H. Harris and Bro. M. A. Wood to report such information as they can obtain upon the Orphan's Home. After some investigation, the committee made the following report:

REPORT ON THE ORPHANAGE.—Your committee beg leave to say that the Orphanage is in successful operation; that Rev. J. W. Stewart is the general manager and financial secretary; that there are thirty-four children in the Home, three of whom have been adopted into good families; that the current expenses of the Home must be kept up by contributions from the Baptists of Alabama, and there are two notes of $1,666

each, yet unpaid, with interest from January 1, 1894, one of which must be met January 1, 1895, and the other January 1, 1896. We therefore recommend to each church systematic giving for this, with all other benevolent objects, and that the money be sent to Rev. J. W. Stewart, Evergreen, Ala.

L. M. Bradley, Ch'n.

In the absence of the Committee on Home and State Missions, a brother, by request, furnished the body with some statistical information.

The Committee on Indigent Ministers reported as follows, which was adopted :

Report of Committee on Indigent Ministers.—Your committee beg to report that we have made diligent inquiry and find that we have no ministers in our Association that are in indigent circumstances, but we think there ought to be a fund raised and sent to our State Board for the purpose of supplying the wants of old and infirm ministers.

Respectfully submitted.

W. A. Morrison, Ch'n.

The Committee on Documents and Requests reported the following: That the Association accept the invitation from Salem church to hold the next session of this body with that church at Brundidge, which was adopted.

The Committee on Nominations made a report as follows : Elder A. E. Pinckard to preach the next Introductory Sermon, Elder L. H. Bowles, alternate. To preach the Missionary Sermon, Elder R. H. Harris, Elder L. M. Bradley, alternate.

Delegates to State Convention—Elders A. N. Worthy, L. M. Bradley, R H. Harris, and Brethren E. M. Shackelford, W. R. Pierson, H. A. McLane, W. H. Barnett, J. D. Murphree, Fox Henderson, S. J. Townsend.

To Southern Convention—Elders R. H. Harris, L. M. Bradley, alternate. J. L. Youngblood, Ch'n.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE.

To Montgomery Association, to be held at Hayneville—Bro. W. H. Barnett.

To Salem, to be held at Harmony—W. A. Morrison, J. A. Dennis, W. H. Barnett, J. L. Youngblood.

To Centennial—Elders L. M. Bradley, J. L. Youngblood, and Brethren W. H. Barnett and B. W. Starke.

Treasurer's report received and adopted.

The Committee on Finance failed to make any report.

The following standing committees were appointed to make reports to the next session :

On Foreign, Home and State Missions—Eld. L. H. Bowles, H. A. McLane, R. B. Parks.

On Sunday Schools—E. M. Shackelford, M. W. Pennington, B. W. Starke.

On Temperance—J. D. Murphree, H. A. McLane and R. B. Parks.

On Education—J. P. Hubbard, L. M. Bradley, J. A. Dennis.

On Bible and Colportage—Elders L. M. Bradley, A. N. Worthy, M. A. Wood.

On Indigent Ministers—Elders E. A. Pinckard, J. L. Youngblood, N. A. Adams.

On Orphanage—W. L. Hendrick, R. P. Copeland, W. G. Hendrick.

On motion this body with a rising vote return thanks to the good people of this community for their kindness and hospitality in their magnanimous support of this body.

On motion the Clerk have 250 copies of these Minutes printed, and that he secure the cheapest and best rates possible.

On motion adjourn to meet Sunday morning at 8:30 o'clock.

According to adjournment the body met at 9 o'clock a. m. After reading scripture lesson, singing and prayer, and after discussing the subject of Sabbath Schools at considerable length by Bro. Dickson and others, the report on Sunday Schools was unanimously adopted.

On motion the Association adjourned after preaching by Elder R. H. Harris on the subject of Missions, from John 3 : 17.

Elder J. L. Youngblood preached on Saturday 8 p. m., from 1 Cor. 13 : 13.

I herewith append the statistical report. Also those present at the call of church roll :

Troy Church—R. H. Harris, J. L. Youngblood, B. W. Starke, J. O. Pierson, S. J. Townsend, J. P. Hubbard, R. L. Harmon, A. N. Worthy.

Shiloh—R. B. Parks, M. A. Wood, J. R. Turner.

Olustee—W. H. Barnett, W. A. Morrison, J. A. Dennis.

Orion—A. E. Pinckard, M. W. Pennington, N. A. Adams.

Salem—L. M. Bradley, H. A. McLane.

W. H. BARNETT, Moderator.

S. J. TOWNSEND, Clerk.

TABULAR STATEMENT.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.	CLERKS.	Received by Baptism.	Received by Letter.	Received by Voucher.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Excommunicated.	Dead.	Total Membership.	Missions.				Education.	Orphanage.	Pastors' Salary.	Church Expenses.	Minutes.	Centennial Fund.
												Foreign.	Home.	State.	Total Amount.						
Troy	R. H. Harris	E. M. Shackelford	W. F. Beard	62	48	2	2	8	4	4	436	$9 30	$5 80	$1 12	17 49		$1 00	$2 000	$1111.75	$20 00	
Shiloh	T. H. Stout		J. H. Wood	3	2	2	1	15	11		129									$3 00	
Olustee	J. L. Youngblood		W. A. Morrison	5	2			4			21			$5 00						$2100	
Orion	A. E. Pinckard	R. M. W. McDade	W. G. Chancey		1			12			63	$4 65		$6 15				$1 25		$5 00	
Salem	L. M. Bradley	H. A. McLane	W. E. Harvey								219			$9 95		$3 07	$16 65			$4 00	$10 65